

must meet his standards in supporting San Bernardino. Please join me in expressing our condolences to his wife, Merrily, and three daughters: Christi Bulot, JayAnn Stanley and Debra Ann Borden, and in praising Norm Johnson's dedication to his city and community.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO
GENERAL HENRY H. SHELTON,
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT
CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, General Henry H. Shelton became the fourteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on October 1, 1997, and was reconfirmed by the Senate for a second 2-year term in 1999. In this capacity, he serves as the principal military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council. Prior to becoming Chairman, he served as Commander in Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Born in Tarboro, North Carolina in January 1942, General Shelton earned a Bachelor of Science degree from North Carolina State University and a Master of Science degree from Auburn University. His military education includes attendance at the Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery, Alabama and at the National War College at Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C.

Commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry in 1963 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps, General Shelton spent the next 24 years in a variety of command and staff positions in the continental United States, Hawaii, and Vietnam. He served two tours in Vietnam—the first with the 5th Special Forces Group, the second with the 173d Airborne Brigade. He also commanded the 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry in the 9th Infantry division at Fort Lewis, Washington; served as the 9th Infantry Division's assistant chief of staff for operations; commanded the 1st Brigade of the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and served as the Chief of Staff of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York.

Following selection for brigadier general in 1987, General Shelton served 2 years in the Operations Directorate of the Joint Staff. In 1989, he began a 2-year assignment as Assistant Division Commander for Operations of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), a tour that included the Division's 7-month deployment to Saudi Arabia for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Upon returning from the Gulf War, General Shelton was promoted to major general and assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he commanded the 82d Airborne Division. In 1993, he was promoted to lieutenant general and assumed command of the XVIII Airborne Corps. In 1994, while serving as corps commander, General Shelton commanded the Joint Task Force that conducted Operation UPHOLD DEMOCRACY in Haiti. In March 1996, he was promoted to general and became Commander in Chief of the US Special Operations Command.

In his 4 years as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Shelton worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for military members and their families. He championed numerous initiatives including the largest across-the-board pay raise for the military in 18 years—helping to narrow the civilian-military "pay gap." His push for pay table reform targeted greater increases for mid-grade non-commissioned officers, and his retirement reform package reinstated benefits for those entering service after 1986. Furthermore, thanks to his dedication and support, an enhanced housing allowance was implemented to gradually eliminate out of pocket expenses for service members living off post. Finally, the Chairman was a strong advocate of the effort to reform medical health care, to make medical care more responsive—to include military retirees over 65.

The Chairman made great strides to improve the readiness of the US military by articulating a regiment for increased defense spending. As a result, the Department of Defense realized a \$112 billion increase in defense spending over the 5-year defense plan to arrest declining readiness rates. He additionally implemented new processes to carefully manage high demand/low density resources in support of the National Security Strategy.

The Chairman and his staff published *Joint Vision 2020* to establish goals and the metrics for the future joint force, and he established U.S. Joint Forces Command as the proponent for Joint Experimentation and Joint Force readiness. He established Joint Task Force-Civil support to increase the military's ability to respond to crises in the US homeland and established Joint Task Force-Computer Network Operations to enhance protection of US information networks. General Shelton directed numerous initiatives designed to improve the interoperability of the four Services including a Joint Warfighting Logistics Initiative, development of a Global Information Grid, revision of all Joint Professional Military Education Programs and an enhancement on the joint warfighting focus of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council.

General Shelton's awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with 2 oak leaf clusters), Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with oak leaf cluster), Bronze Star Medal with V device (with 3 oak leaf clusters), and the Purple Heart. He has also been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff (Identification Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Military Freefall Badge, and Special Forces and Ranger Tabs and numerous foreign awards and badges.

General Shelton is married to the former Carolyn L. Johnson of Speed, North Carolina. Mrs. Shelton has been actively involved with service issues and support to military families throughout General Shelton's career. The General and Mrs. Shelton have three sons; Jonathan, a Special Agent in the US Secret Service; Jeffrey, a US Army Special Operations soldier, and Mark, their youngest son.

General Shelton represented the US military with great distinction for the past four years as its senior military officer. He participated in policy-making at the highest levels of govern-

ment but never lost the common touch with our men and women in uniform. General Shelton will indeed be remembered as a soldiers' soldier and a quiet professional.

TRIBUTE TO SARA LYNN STERLING,
KRISTEN ROBINSON, AND
JORDAN SMITH OF LIBERTY
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School for their work in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks marks a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of young people like Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th, terrorist attacks, Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School have been decorating their fellow classmates jeans in lieu of donations for the grieving families and rescue workers. The patriotism and persistence of Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.